

REMARKS/ARGUEMENTS

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to define, in part, an excavating lip assembly including a lip, the lip having a surface, and a wear member placed over the lip surface, the wear member having an inner surface, the inner surface having a bolt securing indentation therein formed by a half circle element extending from the shroud inner surface. The excavating lip assembly further includes a holding element in the lip surface, the holding element having two spaced-apart openings there through, and a U-bolt connecting bolt received and held in the indentation, the connecting bolt having two ends, each of which is received in one of the holding element openings.

Original Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Page 2,167,425. Applicant respectfully disagrees that the use of the U-bolt and its accompanying structure is merely an obvious design choice. Compared to the structure of Page or the other references of record, the claimed structure is substantially simpler than that of the references, includes use of standard parts, like a U-bolt, and provides additional security by securing two bolts ends, not only one. Since no prima facie case of obviousness has been made, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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